L.G. Planning & Management – Comparison of Models

Subject	Body Corporate Consultative (Local Government)	Community Advisory Lobby Group	Third Party Contracted Consultancy
Style	• Stand-alone • Short term • Snapshot view • Difficult to vary once final report is completed • Unlikely to identify, note or address confounding and impacting issues	• Variable – often integrated with impacting programs • Long term • Continuous improvement based on two-way Community inclusive engagement • Capacity to address confounding, contiguous or impacting issues	• Stand-alone • Short term • Targeted Snapshot cohort • Sometimes advises confounding or supplementary recommendations for resolution by contract initiator
Focus	• Focused on management not outcome • Dominant focus toward supporting self-employment contract conditions • Constrained by CEO and senior managers' personal views and prejudices • Micro management control preference • Fixed pre-set direction • Day to day management lacking strategic foresight • Requires a management process for receival and consideration of feedback • Community engagement dominantly by consultative nature designed for management benefit	• Naturally beneficial outcome focused • Inclusive of and sensitive to, continuous outcome feedback • Naturally sensitive to minimisation of conflict and complaints • Independent from conflicting interests • Engagements valued by Community • Long term management through participatory encouragement • Adaptable to changing conditions and values • Variable to concept construction and not micro detail (Strategic Planning)	• Commercial financial result focus • Outcome dictated by contracted conditions • Activity to suit time & cost limitations • Prejudiced by professional opinion from comparing experience of others • Speculative without measuring outcomes
Outcomes	• Time sensitive – unsustainable without high resource inputs • Impervious to Community values	• Long term – ongoing • Reinforcement of Community values	• Snapshot view only • Strictly confined to preconceived contract terms and conditions

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	• Irritates Community through exclusion • Generates Community complaints through enforcement of 'red-tape' bureaucratic impositions • Diminishes Community respect for L.G. administrative services	• Strengthening of participatory communal society • Increased Community contentment • Enhancing efficiencies - minimising 'red tape'	• Tend to be singular in expertise views • Follow-on recommendations usually ignored • Is useful as a guide reference
Expertise	• Limited to employment policy of CEO • Management style and policies often result in third-party expertise withheld unless paid for	• Able to access or include, 'in community' expertise and field experience across multiple relevant fields	• Expertise usually restricted to third-party consultant's staff and business archives
Process	• Censorship of external submissions • Preconceived theme driving outcome delivery to L.G. servicing agenda • Consultation usually driven to endorse predetermined intention • Partially open and accountable • Community scrutiny or accountability limited to Legislated or regulated provisions	• Promoting Community consensus • Sustainable long-term evolution of subject matter benefit to Community • Fully open and visibly accountable • Constrained by meeting venue availability and secretarial support	• Internal to third party • Closed to Community scrutiny or accountability
Practices	• Intimate control of charter by CEO • Allotted hours of work constraints • Allotted times-of-day constraints • Allotted finances constraints • 'Red tape' and speculative law or regulation impacts constraints • Reluctance to integrity of Community consultation	• Charter controlled by group • Availability linked to required hours • Available any time-of-day • Grant funding available • Exempt from most red tape • Can do attitude avoiding speculation fears	• Controlled to contract conditions • Finances linked to contract terms • Can include covert openings for further contracting of business
Engagement	• Short term or snapshot style	• Open and unprejudiced	• Limited to contract preconditions

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	• Limited to self-motivated respondents • Engagement selected from parties favourable to L.G. Administrators • Submission acceptance subject to CEO & staff prejudices • Often no evidence of consideration given to Community submissions	• Able to search out expert respondents • Time available to seek contributions from widest audience of potential users and stakeholders	• Short term
Subject Matter	• Subject matter remains constant despite a changing environment	• Subject matter can evolve as Community needs or values change	• Subject matter is fixed to contract
Start and Finish	• Restricted by management schedules of work • Restricted by available personell	• Commences on committee establishment comprising Community volunteers	• Commencement and termination subject to contract conditions
WALGA	• May contribute example from other Local Governments	•	• Known to act as a third-party Consultant
Resources	• Effectively unlimited	• Limited to Local Government support • Can access commercial, State or Federal grants	• Limited by Consultancy assets • Limited by contract value